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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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A LARGE CHILD.

BY D. MACLEAN, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO.

I WAS called on the 23d of July last to see a woman in confinement, in this city. She informed me the “waters” had broken, and that about a gallon of dirty-looking fluid had escaped, which alarmed her from its color. I made a careful examination, and informed her that no progress had been made, and as she had no pains, labor might be delayed for some time. The color of the amniotic fluid was owing to the excretions of the child. I heard no more of the case for three days, when I was summoned in haste, and found her having regular labor pains, with slight dilatation of the os uteri. Matters progressed in the usual way, only tedious. The patient becoming somewhat exhausted, I decided to use the forceps, and succeeded in delivering the head in a short time, but found great difficulty in getting the shoulders into the world. The child was still-born, owing to the pressure on the cord from the delay. She made a good recovery, and was up on the tenth day.

As far as the labor was concerned, there was no peculiarity connected with it, differing from many ordinary labors. It is to the size of the child to which I wish to call special attention. It weighed sixteen pounds and two ounces; measured twenty-

three inches in length, seven and one-half inches across the shoulders, and thirteen inches around the chest.

A child of this weight and size is very rare, and even doubted by many. All authorities place the average weight about seven pounds. La Capelle, out of 7,000 cases, found only thirteen which weighed ten pounds, but none which exceeded that weight.

Ingerslev in 3,450 cases found only one which weighed as high as ten and three-eighths pounds. Lusk reports eleven pounds as the highest in his practice. Tanner gives the largest on his register as twelve pounds and four ounces. Meigs says, "The largest one that I have weighed was thirteen pounds and a half avoirdupois." There are, however, on record a few reliable cases that weighed more than is reported by these practitioners, among which might be mentioned Ramsbotham, who delivered a woman of a child which weighed sixteen and one-half pounds. Owens delivered one which weighed seventeen pounds and twelve ounces; and Johnson one twenty pounds in weight. The children were all still-born.

It is possible this case was one of prolonged pregnancy, though positive assurance in the matter is difficult. She enjoyed the best of health, and menstruated regularly—the last period being on the 20th of September, 1882, which would bring the expected time of confinement about the 27th day of June, 1883, while she went just one month longer. The reason for supposing that pregnancy was prolonged in her case, was her general good health, previous regularity, and the large size of the child.

A LETTER.

I WONDER if the good doctors on whom we look with reverence ever had experiences such as we who are fresh in the battle with Disease and Death? Did they ever get in places of such diminutive space as to oblige them to leave the doctoring to nature, while they labored to sustain the dignity of the profession? Were they ever ready to sink with apprehension as symptom after symptom of most unheard of nature arose before them in appalling array, with utmost confidence that each strange abnormality would immediately be healed? Did they ever slip into a closet to examine

doses; did they ever want to hide when the door-bell rang? I have asked myself these questions over and over, trying to gain inspiration from the fact that *maybe* they did; thinking that *if* they *did* I might hope also to become famous, and young physicians might, in the dim future, look upon *my* knowledge and gray hairs with awe mingled with wonder "that one small head," &c. Yet I have looked through a high stack of journals in the last three months, and don't read much about these small unpleasantnesses occurring in the lives of the writers, but on the contrary they are exceedingly successful with seemingly no anxiety or trouble to themselves. Indications are always marked, and they are never overcome by the multitude of symptoms presenting till they don't know which to treat and which to let go, and in their despair give such a shotgun prescription as would make Scudder wear sackcloth and ashes forever advocating specific medication. Then they never speak of going about with a heart heavy as lead with fear that some remedy will not act as is expected, and at next visit view the improvement with as much astonishment as the patient himself could possibly feel were he a mind reader. So I ponder over their wonderful capabilities, and have spasmodic visions of myself sinking into ignominious uselessness and oblivion. However, I think that while none without a love for the profession should practice it, those who do love it are entitled to whatever victories perseverance and thought may bring to them. Historical and biographical investigations give us many encouraging lessons in perseverance and its results, and bring about quite elevating reactions in our mental system.

One of my first cases, and one which might have made me a reputation at once could I have cured it, was a case of Menère's disease. Mr. R——, aged fifty-six, eight years ago was working in a forest when a tree unexpectedly fell towards him, knocking him senseless. He lay unconscious for forty-eight hours, and for six weeks afterward suffered from hemiplegia, recovering with the exception that one ear was perfectly deaf, and the hearing of the other, and his vision impaired. Though he has no nausea or vomiting he suffers from vertigo and becomes so confused when mental effort is required as to render him unfit to transact business, and while walking he has constantly to exercise the powers of volition else he will fall to the ground. Tinnitus aurium

is present, otherwise he is perfectly healthy. The membrana tympani of the deaf ear is opaque, whitish in color, and collapsed. The tuning-fork test shows complete inability to perceive impressions, either by aerial or bone conduction, by the deaf ear; while by the other, sounds were best perceived by aerial conduction. A slightly elevated pitch of voice with distinct articulation is most easily understood. He has been treated by many physicians and is loth to give up trying to regain that without which life is merely an existence.

Faradization is one of my best remedies, and yet I sometimes am puzzled as to which way to run the current. I would like to understand more intimately the pathological condition of the cord in spinal irritation. Text-books give classes, viz: hyperæmia, anæmia, and congestion, and that we shall know by the condition of organs supplied by the nerves as to which condition we have present. One case had tenderness on pressure over the third and fourth dorsal and all the lumbar vertebræ, the sternum, and all the ribs of the right side, and a pain at times between the scapulæ. A sense of weight in the chest and a cough gave the patient the impression that she had consumption. Digestion was weak, circulation feeble, and tongue exceedingly tremulous, while there was a nervous excitation sometimes almost amounting to hysteria. Was this an irritation of the body of the cord or simply of its membranes? Was the cause extrinsic or intrinsic?

I found no "Pathology of Spinal Irritation" in our library, so I diagnosed my case as spinal anæmia and applied the Faradic current, the positive at the sacrum and the negative at the seventh cervical vertebra, then over the muscles of the back, stomach and liver, and occasionally the chest. Excepting a few small doses of podophyllin I confined my internal treatment to nerve stimulants, ergot, belladonna, and small doses of strychnia, doing my best work.

At the end of one month the lumbar vertebræ were free from tenderness. At the end of the third month the troubles had disappeared, one by one, till only the dorsal tenderness was left. Counter-irritation is being employed to overcome that, and I expect soon to dismiss the case, which has been one of many years' standing, and has had prolonged treatment by others. I ascribe my success to the

powers of electricity, but how this has been brought about with my imperfect understanding of the case I am unable to conjecture.

M. H. WHITNEY, M. D.

Cheney, W. T.

DIABETES.

BY O. C. KNIGHT, ATCHISON, KANSAS.

I HAVE been for the past eight years experimenting in the cure of diabetes, and find citrate of soda, in daily doses of half a drachm, an excellent remedy in this disease. I have proved it by analysis, that sugar disappears from the urine when this salt is used with the food instead of common salt. I have also ascertained that the alkaline salts of organic acids, when given in doses too small to produce purgative effects, are absorbed, and their acid being destroyed or burnt up in the respiratory process, are eliminated by the urine as carbonates. Hence citrate of soda may, without interfering with the gastric acid in the same way as alkaline carbonates, place the system under the influence of an alkaline carbonate, which is indispensable to the interstitial combustion of the glucose of the food.

THE PHYSIOLOGICAL ANTAGONISM OF STRYCHNIA AND ATROPIA TO CHLO- RAL HYDRATE.

BY D. MACLEAN, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO.

DEATH from overdoses of chloral is of frequent occurrence. It has become quite a fashionable drug. Many take it to induce sleep without the advice of a physician. In time they get careless and increase the dose with a fatal result. Others take it with a suicidal intent.

It is necessary that the physician should be thoroughly posted as to the best means to counteract its effect, when taken in lethal doses, accidental or otherwise.

The antagonism of strychnia and atropia to chloral was fully demonstrated to me a few days ago in the case of a patient laboring under suicidal mania, who, while his nurse was absent from the room, took 180 grains of chloral hydrate at one draught. He was completely comatose in a short time. The heart's action feeble, pulse quick, and respiration difficult, showing all the symptoms of poisoning.

The case was treated by hypodermic injections of strychnia, atropia, and brandy, and recovery made after the patient had slept about twenty-four hours. One ~~sixteenth~~ ^{sixtieth} of a grain of strychnia and one hundred and twentieth of a grain of atropia in thirty minims of brandy were injected every half hour until three doses were given—one injection of the same strength three hours after, and one in about six hours after that. In the meantime, heat was applied to the surface and occasionally electricity along the spine. Complete insensibility and loss of motion continued for twelve hours, after that a gradual return of sensation and motion was observed and recovery complete in about twenty-four.

If we examine the physiological action of those agents, we can more readily comprehend the rationale of the treatment.

<i>Action of Chloral Hydrate</i>	<i>Action of Strychnia</i>	<i>Action of Atropia</i>
ON THE BRAIN.		
Coma and insensibility suspending the cerebral function.	No effect on the cerebral function.	Diminishes the hypnotic effect and counteracts stupor and insensibility.
ON THE SPINAL CORD.		
Prevents reflex action and suspends motion.	Excites reflex action and motion.	Exalts reflex action, but paralyzes motor nerves.
ON THE HEART.		
Enfeebles its action and reduces arterial tension.	Strengthens its action and increases arterial tension.	In small doses it increases its vigor.
ON THE RESPIRATION.		
Slower and shallower until finally arrested.	Stimulates the respiratory muscles.	Increases the excitability of the respiratory centres.

As may be seen from the above table, there is no antagonism between chloral and strychnia so far as the brain is concerned, but there is a strong antagonism between them in their action on the spinal cord, heart, and respiration. On the other hand, atropia strongly antagonizes the action of chloral on the brain, and also to a certain extent its action on the heart and respiration.

Death is produced by chloral in paralyzing the action of the heart and respiratory muscles, so that our best antagonist is strychnia, in appropriate doses. While atropia is beneficial in relieving the stupor and insensibility, care must be exercised in not using too large doses, and atropia poisoning added to that of chloral. The doses should be small, and repeated until we find dilatation of the pupil produced. We will then have its characteristic effect, and all the advantage gained that we can expect from its use.

MATERIA MEDICA.

BY O. C. KNIGHT, ATCHISON, KANSAS.

NO BRANCH of the science of medicine has been more shamefully neglected by our old school friends, than *Materia Medica*, is a fact that none will presume to deny. Why these physicians are content with the therapeutic knowledge of a few remedies, and of these an undue proportion of a mischievous character, while the field of vegetable botany, of organic chemistry, and sensitive medicines lies before them comparatively unexplored, is an enigma. That patients sometimes recover under that plan of treatment, we admit; that they are cured, we deny. To adopt the words of Lacon, the "patients have had a fortunate escape," the *vis medicatrix natura* having been sufficiently potent to dispossess the disease and overcome the effects of noxious drugs.

Indeed, but for the labors of the eclectic branches of the profession, the *Materia Medica* of our country would still remain unknown. This vanguard of the medical army has rescued it from oblivion, and given to the world about 120 new and invaluable therapeutic agents, attractive in appearance, portable, convenient for use, comparatively pleasant to the taste, and efficient in their action. Invention has also improved their form, and the eclectic remedies may now be obtained in form of fluid extracts and concentrated tinctures, much more satisfactory in their therapeutic action than they were previously when given in a crude form. Many of these remedies appear to have a beneficial action upon specific organs, surfaces, or tissues, and to be directly curative in their action upon these diseased parts. For instance, the *hydrastis canadensis* has a specific influence on mucous surfaces; and its action in this direction is so apparent that the indications for its employment cannot be mistaken. The *iris versicolor* has a direct action upon the glandular system, and is invaluable as an alterative and resolvent; it is powerfully depurating, and is indicated in scrofula, glandular swellings, syphilis, etc. The *podophyllum peltatum* is directed to the liver, and hepatic duct. The *cactus grandiflora* quiets the action of the heart in palpitation from nervous excitement or other causes; while the *veratrum viride* acts directly upon the same organ as a sedative, and controls its pulsations with more certainty

than any other agent known. In the *Materia Medica* indigenous to our own country, the field for investigation is large and the entrances open, inviting the student to enter and prosecute his inquiries.

The physicians of the eclectic school have begun the exploration of this field with a praiseworthy zeal, which others should emulate. Their labors in this direction have placed in the hospitals of America and Europe new therapeutic remedies, by which diseases are rendered more tractable; and I believe that the average term of years of human life has been lengthened. Diseases hitherto incurable are now compelled to yield, while at the same time little hazard exists of creating new maladies by the agency of the medicines, as bad or worse than those which are reputed to have been healed.

NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the National Eclectic Medical Association was held at Topeka, Kansas, June 20-22, all which were red-letter days in the Eclectic history. The attendance was large, yet but for the floods that stopped trains off Kansas City and elsewhere it would have been much larger. Eighteen States were represented in person and others by correspondence.

The President, Prof. A. J. Howe, of Cincinnati, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock. It was stated that he had walked all the way up from Kansas City, in default of a train, to be in readiness.

The Right Rev. Thomas Vail, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas, offered an earnest invocation in behalf of the Association, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

His Excellency, Geo. W. Glick, Governor of Kansas, delivered a cordial address of welcome. He humorously promised perfect health to the members while at Topeka, and paid an eloquent tribute to the Eclectic practice as based on "a grand and noble principle."

President Howe's reply was characteristic and full of wit. To come to Topeka was a step in the right direction, and His Excellency had already put them in good terms with their surroundings. It was a question, however, whether, as sickness is an evil, misfortune, and calam-

ity, physicians might legitimately pray for their daily bread. They bridged it over, however, by giving medicines so pleasant that patients regarded it as a luxury to be sick. "We really make some people enjoy poor health."

He concluded by wishing well to the two distinguished gentlemen: "May your lives ever fall in pleasant places."

The following Committee on Credentials was appointed: Drs. G. C. Pitzer, of Missouri, T. Arthur Wright, of Kansas, H. Wohlgemuth, of Illinois, W. F. Gemmell, of Ohio, and V. A. Baker, of Michigan.

The resolution in regard to controversies of medical colleges, adopted in 1878, was then rescinded, and another adopted that a committee of five be appointed by the Chair, to consider matters relating to colleges, and report upon the same, and that the committee be continued from year to year, their vacancies, when absent, to be filled by the President.

Drs. L. E. Russell, J. M. Mulholard, J. T. McClanahan, E. Younkin, and S. B. Fisher were appointed as the committee.

President Howe then delivered the annual address.

A report of the Committee on Credentials concluded the morning session.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON.

Various papers were reported by title and referred to Section B.

Several pending amendments to the constitution were taken up and rejected.

The following amendments were adopted:—

By-Laws, Article VI., Section 1, so as to read: "Every State represented in the Association *by members belonging to a State society* shall be entitled to two votes, and every medical college recognized by this Association to one vote in said committee." (Submitted by Dr. H. G. Newton.)

Article I., Section 1—"Persons of high medical and scientific attainments from other countries may, upon the nomination of a member and the recommendation of the Executive Committee, be elected honorary member at the annual meeting next after such nomination."

Several letters were read from members not able to attend.

Ex-President Latta sent a letter stating among other matters that three Chairs had been allotted to the Eclectics in the State University of Nebraska. Dr. Latta has been appointed Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine, and Dr. J. H. Woodard Professor of Materia Medica, leaving the Chair of Obstetrics and Gynæcology yet to fill.

The Committee on Pharmacopœa was then constituted as follows: Doctors A. Merrell, B. L. Yeagley, S. B. Musen, H. K. Stratford and V. A. Baker.

Dr. L. E. Russell preferred charges of unprofessional conduct against Dr. J. M. Hole, of Ohio, for advertising, etc., in violation of Article III. of the By-Laws. The matter was referred to the Committee on Credentials.

The Association then adjourned to enable the holding of sections.

SECTION OF SURGERY.

In the absence of Prof. Milton Jay, the chair of Section A. was taken by Dr. S. W. Ingraham of Chicago. Dr. Russell, the Secretary, read a paper on "Surgical Progress," also giving several cases in surgical practice. A general discussion followed.

President Howe described a case of removal of calculus. Several surgeons had given up the matter, but he succeeded.

Dr. E. Younkin, of Missouri, read a paper on "Plastic Surgery and Treatment of Fractures."

A. Garman, a stage carpenter, who had suffered from dislocation of the left shoulder, by a fall of thirty feet, was introduced to the section. President Howe gave his opinion that it was dislocation, a fact not before known. He described the case very definitely. Prof. Younkin also gave his judgment how the fracture should be reduced. The patient was then placed under the influence of chloroform by Dr. Ingraham, and the bone replaced by Dr. Younkin, assisted by Dr. Russell.

An informal session of members of the Association was held in the evening, Vice-President Stratford in the chair.

SECOND DAY—MEDICINE.

In the absence of Dr. Milbrey Green, the Chairman, Secretary Munk called Section B to order. Prof. A. Merrell presided.

Several papers were introduced and read.

Dr. A. Wilder read a paper upon "Early Brain and Physical Culture," taking strong exceptions to modern methods of education, and declaring that if the body were reared healthy, the brain could duly procure its own culture.

The Secretary of the section was directed to present all papers in his hands to the Secretary of the Association.

MORNING SESSION.

The chair was taken by the President at 10 o'clock. The Committee on Credentials, after reporting the names of candidates, submitted a report in regard to Dr. Hole. His action in the matter of issuing an unprofessional circular soliciting patronage, was declared "entirely unprofessional and unbecoming, and only calculated to cast odium not only on State societies but also on the National Association." The committee accordingly recommended his suspension or expulsion.

Dr. Munn moved to suspend final action for one year; lost. The motion for immediate expulsion was then carried.

The Committee on Colleges reported in favor of postponing any action in favor of the Medical Department in Drake University, Iowa, for one year. The report was accepted.

Dr. Reid, a professor in the university, protested against this action.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Charles Band, of Crete, Nebraska, regretting his inability to be present. He tendered his good wishes for a prosperous session, and accompanied them with his draft for \$100. This announcement was greeted with applause.

Dr. Russell offered a resolution appropriating \$500 for the publication of Vol. XI. of "Transactions." Adopted. The scope of this resolution is to limit the dimensions and expense of the volume, and will necessitate the Secretary's strict adherence to the By-Law which requires papers to be deposited with him within thirty days.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Secretary arose to a question of privilege. Charges were made against the President. He referred to his own cordial relations with former presidents, which had extended into permanent friendship, a fact which added to the peculiar delicacy of the duty which he must now discharge. In consideration of Professor's eminent ability and services,

Dr. Band, of Nebraska, had commissioned him to present a token of his regard. This was a cane from Tiffany's, where Flora McFlimsy's engagement ring was purchased. "You will accept this, Mr. President, as from Dr. Band, with his assurances of high regard and esteem, and his earnest wishes that you will live long to use it, and to remember that you were our presiding officer." The legend upon the cane reads: "To A. J. Howe, A. M., M. D., President N. E. M. A., from Charles Band, M. D., June 22, 1883."

The President made a humorous reply. He said that he considered this presentation the highest honor he had ever received. He most cordially thanked the donor. A cane brought to mind all kinds of canes: Hurricanes, for instance, which we all avoid. Then there is sugar-cane from which we make taffy. He guessed that this was taffy. Then there was Cain who killed Abel. He always had a great pity for Abel. He thanked Dr. Band. If he had known what was to have happened, he might have prepared a speech and passed it off on the innocent reporters as *impromptu*. He warned the Secretary to put on his best manners, as he had not become so decrepit as to need the cane; but could use it.

Dr. Wohlgemuth now read a paper on the "Abuse of Opium." He called attention to the abuse of morphia, especially in hypodermic injections. Patients are apt to procure a syringe for themselves and use the drugs often, reckless or not aware of the consequences.

Dr. Russell gave notice of an amendment to the By-Laws to increase the annual dues to \$5 per year. President Howe and others spoke in favor of the change; and the motion lies over for one year.

Dr. Anton, the Treasurer, reported the names of members in arrears: Sixty-four for one year; twenty-five for two years, and eighteen for three years—an aggregate of \$502.

The members of the Committee on Colleges, four in number, submitted a preamble and resolution to place the Medical Department of Drake University (Iowa Eclectic Medical College) on probation for one year, with the assurance that, if it makes a good record, it will then be formally recognized. Adopted.

SECTION C.

Prof. P. D. Yost, of St. Louis, now took the chair and called Section C to order. He proceeded to read his opening

address, a paper on "Sterility, its Causes and Cure." An animated discussion followed in regard to compatible marriages.

Dr. Wilder dissented from the peculiar doctrine of Dr. W. Byrd Powell on physiological incompatibilities of temperament, arguing that if the doctrine were true, five generations would be about enough to depopulate the world. He insisted that a proper unselfish affection between parents would tend to promote health and vigor in offspring.

Dr. Anton favored the Powell doctrine, but adduced cases of healthy children where the parents were closely related.

Dr. T. Hodge Jones, of Missouri, read a paper on "Antiseptic Remedies in Obstetric Practice."

There was no evening session. The ladies of the Protestant Episcopal Church gave the members of the Association an entertainment at the residence of Dr. L. E. Martin, and the latter were too easily led away by music from the Modoc Band to be willing to attend to prosaic business.

THIRD DAY—SECTION D.

Dr. H. K. Stratford, Chairman of the section on Otology, Ophthalmology and Laryngology, took the chair at 9 o'clock, June 22d. Dr. Furber, of Appanoose, Kansas, acted as Secretary.

The Chairman delivered an address upon the progress made in the various departments connected with the section. They were very interesting and were well received.

Several papers were read by title and duly ordered to be delivered to the Association.

Section E did not formally organize.

MORNING SESSION.

President Howe took the chair and announced the regular order of business. Calling Vice-President Stratford to the chair, he offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five ex-Presidents to organize an Eclectic Mutual Aid Association and put it in order. Adopted.

Doctors Munn, Duncan, Howe, Clark and Green constitute the committee.

The Electoral Committee was next appointed.

Dr. Russell rose to a question of privilege. He complained of the action of his associates on the Committee on Colleges in regard to the Medical Department of Drake University,

and read a communication from Dr. O. H. P. Shoemaker impugning the various proceedings of the various professors.

The business of the Association was suspended, and the committee retired. It subsequently reported the chair of the following officers for next year:—

President, Edwin Younkin, M. D., of St. Louis; Vice-Presidents, first, J. Milton Welch, M. D., of La Cygne, Kansas; second, George Covert, M. D., of Clinton, Wisconsin; third, L. T. Beam, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; Secretary, A. Wilder; Treasurer, James Anton, of Lebanon, Ohio.

The next place of meeting was not fixed, but a vote was taken leaving the Executive Committee to make choice between St. Paul, Cleveland, and Cincinnati.

The new officers were duly inaugurated and made speeches. The usual resolutions were adopted, and the Association adjourned.

The meeting was perhaps the most successful ever held.

Business was promptly transacted; the professional topics well handled, and the interest continued unabated till the last. One or two episodes marred the general harmony; but in other respects all went off well, and the bonds of fraternity were drawn more tightly than ever.

"THE CODE AGAIN."

BY J. M. YOUNG, STUDENT OF MEDICINE, CALIFORNIA MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THERE is considerable discussion of this subject taking place at the present time. It is impossible to open an Eastern journal of the so-called liberal stamp, and not find a tirade against the code of a very illiberal and sometimes abusive type. Even the public press have found it a subject demanding the attention of their ablest representatives.

The fact is there is an unhealthy tone to such wholesale denunciation.

We consider any code of ethics, or any system of oaths, or affirmations (Hippocratic or otherwise) that permits and presents an insuperable barrier between educated men and women, simply because they have obtained their education at different institutions, or under different auspices, as truly a relic of the dark ages, and no animadversion or condemnation

can be *too severe*. But from the very nature of this most learned profession, there MUST be a code of ethics existing among physicians. It should be broad enough to shelter every thoroughly educated practitioner in the *world*. Narrow enough to relegate to their proper sphere the charlatans, nostrum venders, faith curers, cancer doctors, bone setters, magnetic healers, and mesmerizers, whose macadamized cheek flaunts their names 'neath the honorable title of DOCTOR.

We believe the future holds just this kind of a code. We believe the travail of the *code maligners* presages its near birth. We will be the first to welcome it. Perhaps in that day we may find it in our hearts to rise in our magnanimity and thank the allopathic sphinx for the good it has done in conserving scientific medicine.

Who are the liberals in medicine? The homeopath who curls his attenuated lip and sneers "*Thompsonianism*" every time he is brought in contact with an eclectic? The eclectic who excuses his slovenly environment by crying "*little pills*" and "*moonshine*," when he meets a homeopath? Or the allopath who curses both?

Had we not better cease calling such LIBERALS, and in place give them their truer title, PESSIMISTS?

Would not such a nomenclature include *all* who are now clamoring for a revision of the code? And how many of the self-styled liberals would we wrong by so doing?

The only true liberal is he who is willing to make a sacrifice for the truth and the common benefit of all; and his liberalism is commensurate with the dignity of his sacrifice.

The standard-bearers of liberal medicine have two classes of opponents; one class they have to fight; the other they must needs watch. The former, settled in the arrogance of their own assumption, believing the *Ultima Thule* can be reached, if ever, only through the door they hold open, are not confined to any sect or school, but alike render allopathy, homeopathy, or eclecticism a clog or brake upon the wheels of progress.

The class that need watching are so noisy and demagogic, and their claims to consideration as physicians are so meretricious that our whole duty to the science of medicine demands a code utterly excluding them. To such a code and no other will we subscribe.

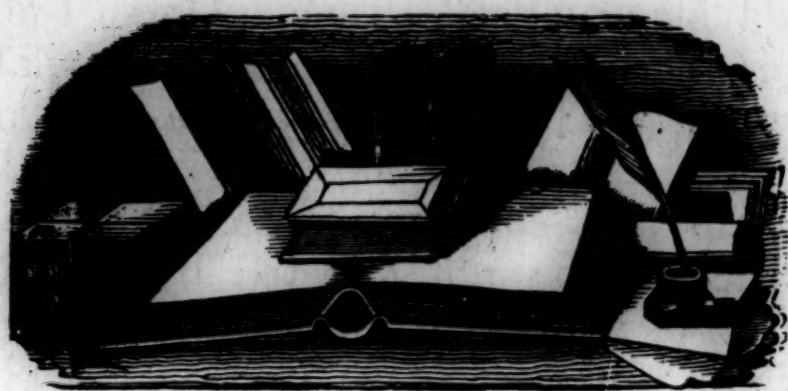
URINARY SEDIMENTS.

BY M. H. LOGAN, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO.

AFTER being allowed to stand a few minutes, even normal urine will show a faint cloud. This is generally mucus, and floats between the top and bottom. This mucus has its origin in the mucous membrane of the genito-urinary tract, and carries with it epithelial scales, which differ from one another, and are characteristic of that part of the urinary tract from whence they come. The round cells take their origin from the uriniferous tubules, from the deep layer of the pelvis of the kidney, from the male urethra; and from the bladder. The columnas, or conical epithelium, called spindle cells, come from the urethra and ureters, and from the superficial layers of the pelvis of the kidney. The scaly cells come from the vagina or bladder. They are flat, irregular polygonal, with generally a small nucleus. It is necessary to distinguish them, first, from one another, second, from pus cells. The microscope will readily diagnose the first difference. The second difference is more difficult of diagnosis. The causes producing these results differ only in degree, so if we find a large quantity of mucus we will generally find some pus. Pus contains albumen, while mucus does not. Test the supernatant fluid for albumen; if none appears, there is no pus. The mucus may be in so small a quantity as almost to pass unnoticed. It will be made more distinctly visible by the addition of acetic acid, which coagulates the mucine of the mucus. The microscope will scarcely distinguish the difference between mucous and pus corpuscles. They are both of the same size, a little larger than a blood corpuscle, nearly spherical, and slightly granular. The only difference is in the number of nuclei. Mucous corpuscles are mononucleated, while pus corpuscles have more than one. The action of water is the same on both. It causes the corpuscle to swell up, lose its granular appearance, and causes the nucleus to appear very distinct. Acetic acid does the same thing a little more rapidly. The caustic alkalies destroy their form, and convert them into a gelatinous mass. If the sediment settles more rapidly when approaching the bottom of the vessel, somewhat more opaque than mucus, then test for the earthy phosphates, called also triple phosphates, phosphate of ammonium, mag-

nesium, and calcium. They occur in feebly alkaline urine, and become abundant if the alkaline fermentation has set in. They occur in all diseases of the bladder, as well as some forms of spinal paralysis. The characteristic ammoniacal smell always accompanies them. Under the microscope they have a triangular, prismatic, and quadrilateral shape, with beveled edges. They also assume a very perfect starfish shape. These, as well as most other crystals, are more or less broken up and conglomerated. All phosphates are dissolved by acids, and not affected by alkalies or heat, while the urates, of which we will speak next, are dissolved by both acids and alkalies.

Uric acid: This sediment is found principally in acid urine and urine concentrated from any cause. It indicates a want of assimilation, and imperfect oxidation of the blood. This sediment sinks to the bottom of the vessel rather rapidly, and sometimes adheres to the side. The individual crystals are frequently large enough to be distinguished by the naked eye, and their color being yellowish-red gives them an appearance of fine sand or red pepper grains. Under the microscope they assume various shapes, such as rhomboids, cubes, combs, fascicles, ovoidfous, six sided plates, dumb-bells, spiculated war-clubs, etc. This latter, together with the fact that they are frequently agglomerated, causes the pain that is experienced in passing them. Uric acid crystals are always colored pink or red. The chemical test is their insolubility in hot or cold water, perfect solubility in alkalies, and recrystallization by acetic acid. The salts of urea are principally sodium urate, which forms a large proportion of the deposit called brick-dust sediment. It generally has a brick dust color and occurs in pale urine of low specific gravity (about 1012). It is caused by a want of assimilation in the system, and occurs in most fevers. The microscopic appearance is not very satisfactory, giving generally an amorphous granular appearance, although they sometimes have a prismatic star or fan shape. They are dissolved with heat and acetic acid.



EDITORIAL.

Some Wants of Eclectic Medicine.—The principles of eclecticism are the only true principles upon which to found successful practice and upon which to live an honest and upright professional life, but still they tend to lead its professed followers away from some things which are essential to their own welfare as a body and as individuals.

The assumption of the inherent right to free thought and defiance of authority, gives rise to a spirit of self-reliance in every individual enlisting under its banner. The eclectic practitioner becomes his own authority, and bows to nothing until it is proven genuine by the crucial test of experience. Surrounded by allopathists and homeopathists, the former of whom, especially, prove a source of constant annoyance, he gradually begets a spirit of self-reliance, and even pugnacity, which finally merges into the condition of mind implied in the old saw, "Every man for himself, the d——l for the hindmost."

Could the energy and force of such characters as these be combined, could it so be that such men would work together shoulder to shoulder, perseveringly, for general good, instead of bending all their energies in isolation, for individual profit alone, much might be achieved for the school—for we certainly must separate ourselves from those who stand

aloof from us—that has never yet been accomplished, though much talked of and longed for.

In this direction the allopaths set us an example which we would do well to profit by. No matter how much they quarrel among themselves, how many times the stronger rob the weaker and apply the lash of codal authority to those whose positions do not warrant defiance of its strictures, when it comes to a matter of school they hang together like brothers, and every effort is lent to turn the scale in favor of its individual members. Thus it is that ignorant men, who would be pointed to with derision if sailing under eclectic colors, are shielded and held up before the public.

The homeopaths also afford a worthy example. The spirit of communism is strong among them, and they have scored many a victory against allopathy by working actively in harmony, while eclectics were plodding along oblivious to and careless of everything save the size of their bank accounts and the integrity of their individual professional standing. For years past we have heard, every now and then, of some public institution of no mean note passing under homeopathic control in spite of the efforts of allopathy to capture it. How many such institutions have eclectics been awarded as a result of their public spirit and enterprise? We wait for echo to answer.

There are many reasons for this state of affairs. In the first place, the leaders of eclecticism have, in many instances—though there are some notable exceptions—lost sight of everything in the final issue, but the almighty dollar. The building up of the cause has been made secondary to the piling up of filthy lucre. This has given shape to the aspirations of the rank and file who have gone out of college, in too many instances, and jogged along content with an occasional counter-crusade against allopathic competitors, and the laurels won by individual effort. Such plodding hardly ever begets a desire for advancement, and the great mass of eclectics leave college brighter so far as the acquirements of

the medical student are concerned than they ever are afterward; for they become absorbed in practice and the cares of life, until many of the adornments so desirable in a medical man, and of which college life affords them but a smattering, are lost sight of forever. To be successful practitioners and make practice pay become the great aims of life.

This is commendable, but not all the duties they owe to themselves and the cause they represent. Such a state of affairs ought to be bettered. There ought to be more public spirit, and more of a disposition to uphold one another, even to the extent of great personal sacrifice if necessary. No eclectic should ever hear a brother eclectic underrated or berated without striving to do him justice and uphold him in all honorable efforts. In the way of public appointments something more than the mere passing of resolutions and signing of petitions must be done if we would be promoted to public places. There are many ways by which energy at the proper time will turn the tide and prevent the election of men to our legislative halls whose impulses are strong against us. Such men should be spotted, and what little strength we possess judiciously employed to defeat them. Besides this our claims should be presented to our friends upon all suitable occasions, both public and private, and money should be advanced to further our interest when really needed. In short every eclectic should be as genuinely alive to the interest of his branch of the profession as he is to his own individual interests, in order that it may thrive as it deserves.

Moreover let the eclectic school become composed of men to whom the most intelligent in all communities will look up. Let them be assiduously studious throughout all their professional lives, seeking thus not only personal advancement but that of the cause they represent. Let a thorough knowledge of all that modern medicine teaches be acquired, and let them be awake to its onward march, so that no member of any other school can consistently point the finger

of scorn deridingly at them; let them cast off the curse which has grown upon eclecticism by the presence of so many ignorant men in its ranks, and when a thorough knowledge of the teaching of the various schools has been acquired, let them turn their minds toward the highest state of mental culture outside the medical profession—to scientific knowledge and to general literature, such as will enable them to pass muster before the most accomplished.

Such a class of physicians as this will not fail to command respect, whatever may be said of them, and, if men of moral habits, they are certain to be honored in any community, no matter what the opposition may be.

Health Resorts.—Where shall we go? Our observation has been this season that those who went from San Francisco to Santa Cruz or Monterey were not benefited in the least, but, on the contrary, nearly all came home to be “doctored up.” The reason of this is quite plain. There is a cool, chilly atmosphere on the sea-shore, and the affections which most afflict us are caused by these breezes. At Monterey and Santa Cruz the *breezes* are equally cool, and our patients, being at a “watering-place,” of course must indulge in the luxury of bathing frequently. Together with the cool air and the cooler water, they come home with their noses running, and some of them with bronchitis or rheumatism.

It is difficult to induce our friends to see that they must have a change of climate if they expect good as a result. If they would go to the interior, and at a sufficient altitude in the mountains so that the heat would not be so great, conditions would be reversed, and their season of recreation would be one indeed. But they say their friends are going to Monterey, and for company they must go with them.

If a man has nasal, aural, pharyngeal, or bronchial catarrh here on the coast, send him to a warm, dry climate and he

will get well. Send him to Monterey and he will come home in a few weeks in a condition to give you farther patronage. If your patient lives where it is dry, hot, and malarious, send him to the coast, and let him cool off. Get him away from the influences which have created his frailties, and surround him with opposite conditions, and health will be the result. Physicians are too apt to be careless and unobserving in these matters, and it is not right that they should be so. They are the conservators of the health of the people by whom they are employed, and it is as much their duty to advise them regarding matters of this kind as to be able to administer drugs scientifically.

Faradism in Disease.—It will serve our purpose very well to prospect a little in the start, to look over the ground before us, and consider some of the uses of faradism in a general way before entering more fully into detail.

The range of this agent in medical practice is quite an extensive one. Sometimes its use alone will be of great service; again we may bring it in as an auxiliary to the action of drugs. It is well in the start, however, to remember that it is not a cure-all, and that we make no such claims for it, and also that the most experienced in its use sometimes fail to get from it the anticipated good effect. Therefore if you are disappointed once do not cast the agent aside as worthless, but persevere. The more you use it the better you will know how, and the more uniform will be the satisfactory results as you learn better how to employ proper discrimination in selecting cases for its application.

But be careful that you do not become outrageous in your demands. Faradism has its legitimate uses. Because it will answer a good purpose in certain cases do not expect it to deliver a parturient female, or amputate a leg. Its proper place must be learned, and that partly from experience, and

its application must be rationally made if anything like fair results are to be expected from it.

We believe the faradic current to possess two opposite kinds of therapeutical property, depending upon the method of its application. We are aware that Bartholow denies this, but we deny, on the other hand, the authority of a novice. "The proof of the pudding is the chewing of the string;" the use of the two kinds of current will convince any candid observer. The electrode attached to the positive—the conductor conveying the current from the coil—possesses soothing, sedative properties, and is best adapted to acute, local disturbances, for instance, sharp pain of recent origin, or acute local inflammations as simple conjunctivitis, erysipelas, or inflammatory rheumatism. But one point ought to be recollected, the positive only should be used upon the head as a rule, though in some forms of headache we place the negative over the insertion of the trapezius upon the occiput.

The negative electrode—the one attached to the conductor which carries the current toward the coil—is stimulating and even irritating in its influence. Locally, it is best adapted to chronic states, as old, indolent ulcers, scrofulous ophthalmia, paresis of muscles, and chronic rheumatic conditions, or it will often serve a valuable purpose in torpid states of the liver, stomach, and their associate viscera in jaundice, and dyspepsia, where there is want of proper enervation.

With these points in mind, we may adapt it to many cases where the disease is located upon the surface of the body, but where internal organs are involved, it has been claimed that discrimination must be observed in arranging for the proper effect of the selected current. Provided, that the conducting cords are of equal length, it has been argued that the current, at a point intermediate between them, is neither positive nor negative, and that where internal organs lie, so that this point only can be brought to bear upon them,

a longer cord should be attached to the positive post if a negative influence is desired, or to the negative post if a positive influence is requisite. Some might regard this as a whimsical proposition. We do not advocate it with great enthusiasm, but refer to it that our readers may investigate for themselves.

Animal tissues, as a rule, are good conductors of the faradic current. If the positive be applied to a certain locality by means of a wetted sponge attached to the metal terminus of the cord, and the negative supplied with wetted sponge in same manner be placed upon some distant part, the current will travel the shortest route between these two points, and exert its influence upon the tissues included in that route, provided these be soft tissues (bone is a bad conductor). If, then, we wish to influence tissues in any part of the body, we place the two poles at opposite points, so that the part where we desire the effect shall lie directly between, and we bring it within the influence.

Where a particular current or influence is desired upon some part, we place the opposite electrode, or pole, at a distance, upon some healthy part, and so that the current shall traverse the affected region. For instance, suppose we have a case of acute lumbar rheumatism, or injury of the lumbar muscles, as strain. The patient should here sit upon a moistened sponge, attached to the negative pole, the parts being naked, or some thin covering through which the dampness will penetrate to the skin, while the positive sponge is passed backward and forward over the painful lumbar muscles. Or suppose we have a case of pericranial neuralgia or rheumatism of acute character, the negative should be held at the vertebra prominens, or in the patient's hands, while the positive should be applied to the painful part. Let these suffice as illustrations.

One of the most valuable results of the faradic current is the effect derived from its general or constitutional use. As a tonic, in many instances, it answers a valuable purpose

not only improving nervous and muscular energy, but promoting all the functional activities, augmenting secretion, excretion, digestion and assimilation remarkably in a short time, in quite a large range of cases. In chlorotic anæmia, we have never found its equal. In malarial cachexia, to aid other treatment, it is an important auxiliary—indeed, we have cured chronic ague with this agent alone. In insomnia it answers a good purpose, as also in many other cases of nervous excitability. Later we will enter more fully into the constitutional uses of this agent when we consider special diseases.

The manner of employing the general treatment is to have the patient place the bare feet upon a wetted sponge—warm water is preferable—attached to the positive electrode, while the operator holds the negative steadily against the spine, over the vertebra prominens, or a little above it, for from five to eight minutes. Then instruct the patient to remove the right foot from the sponge, still leaving the left upon it, while he holds the negative in the right hand for two or three minutes. After this remove the left foot from the sponge, and, placing the right upon it, hold the negative in the left hand for the same length of time. It should be known and remembered that the patient will not bear as strong a current in either hand as he will upon the back, and its force regulated accordingly. In commencing a *seance* or treatment, and when any change is made in the current, the force should always be very mild in the beginning, and gradually increased, so that the patient may be subjected to no shock. This would not in itself be a serious matter, but it might cause your patient to mistrust your ability in managing the agent properly—at least, he might consider you negligent or careless.

The treatment described in the last paragraph will be designated as the “Tonic treatment.” Were we operating upon a case of phrenitis, or one with determination of blood to the brain, a condition in which we need not expect great

results, we would reverse the direction of the current, placing the negative at the feet, and the positive upon the head, thus sending the current downward.

In another article we will give more explicit directions for the operating of faradic machines, and the application of the current to the patient's body.

Sewer Gas.—After all the talk about sewer gas and its contaminating influence, it is about to be decided that it is innocuous. Dr. George Hamilton, of Philadelphia, discusses this subject in the *New York Medical Record*, July 28th, and by authentic citations weakens the doctrine that our sewerage is to blame for our city epidemics of disease.

It appears that the closest scientific observers have always entertained doubts regarding the infecting influence of emanations from water-closets or leaking sewer pipes, and that those who talk so flippantly on the subject know the least. Epidemics have oftener had their origin in the suburbs where there were no water-closets or sewer pipes, but where privy vaults were used instead. The origin of typhoid fever, diphtheria, and the like, have been enveloped in considerable mystery; at times the cause seeming plain, and at others inexplicable. There are such a multiplicity of influences in large cities which might give rise to the development of infectious diseases that it may always be difficult to assign the true one, but in the country or in villages it is otherwise.

It is argued by those who believe in the noxiousness of sewer gas, that where typhoid fever or diphtheria originate in small towns, or on the outskirts of cities, the cause is to be traced to the drainage of privy vaults into the wells. These different opinions have been formed by observation by men under different circumstances, and, no doubt, each has a measure of truth in it. How the emanations from a foul sewer pipe or closet could fail to contaminate the atmosphere about them would be hard to surmise. The waste of a city

sewer pipe we would think much worse than that of a privy vault of the country, as the latter is confined to alvine evacuations, while the former has in it all manner of animal and vegetable decomposing material—the offal of the culinary department. We have not been impressed by the theory that disease often arises from the drainage from privy vaults into wells, as by percolation through the soil of a few feet the filthy debris becomes separated by percolation from the water. The water of barn-yard wells, where the surface is completely covered by manure, may remain perfectly sweet provided direct drainage is prevented, and it is a known fact in the country that it is surface water only that is impure. Our experience has been that wells become productive of disease when quantities of debris have been allowed to get into them during a number of years or months, and when the water gets low this decomposing mess is stirred up and drunk. If you could consult a man who makes it his business to clean wells, and get his knowledge of all that accumulates in them, you would think it wonder that we live at all. Dead rats and mice, old rags, old boots, and numberless other materials, capable of decomposition, are covered over and tightly sealed by the dust and earth that falls from the walls and is blown in the well. It is kept harmless in this way until low water makes it necessary that the bucket or pump dip to the bottom, and then comes the infection.

We have witnessed a number of cases of the kind where families who had been in excellent health for years when, from a season of drought, the whole of them would be taken with typhoid. There might be instances where there was direct leakage from a privy vault into a well sufficient to produce disease, but usually one would think in such cases the water would become so bad to the taste that it would not be drunk.

We are of the opinion, as above stated, that the human excreta is not greatly noxious, and that decomposing veg-

etable and animal matter, as it occurs otherwise, is oftener the cause of infectious disease. In districts where typho-malarial fever prevails so greatly, persons who drink water that comes from near the surface—right from the grass roots—are almost universally affected, while those who have deep wells, regardless of their proximity to privy vaults, have almost entire immunity from the disease. In seeming contradiction of all this the fact of zymotic disease prevailing in the mountains where people are far apart, and their surroundings, so far as pure air and water is concerned, are perfect, may puzzle us; but we can get out of the dilemma in no other way than by acknowledging that there is a multiplicity of causes which may start the germ of zymoses in the blood.

We should far sooner think carelessness in disposing of kitchen offal a cause of zymosis than the drainage of privy vaults into wells, and that the disease-producing element of the sewer gas originates from the same material, rather than from alimentary dejections. Go into the poorer parts of the city, or any place where bad house-keeping is done, and take a smell, and then talk of sewer gas or privy vaults! While our city fathers are trying to heal the pipes, let them inspect the kitchens. The whole of some houses, from cellar, to garret, is permeated by the odor of decomposing material of one kind or another, and the only wonder is that such people live at all.

In conclusion we would remark that we think much is blamed to sewer gas for which it is not guilty, and also would say as much regarding privy vaults, that the sources of zymotic disease are oftener from filthy house-keeping, and that this does not always occur among the poor or degraded. Each housekeeper should be compelled to dispose of the debris from his kitchen in a proper manner, and keep his bedding and sleeping apartments clean and well ventilated. Are there any of our brethren who have made this subject a special study who can communicate something?

The Conclave.—We should say that the Sir Knights have been satisfactorily, even gorgeously entertained, by our City of the Setting Sun. Thousands upon thousands have been spent upon this project, all of which is meet and proper. The display was grand at the "grand procession and reviews," and the beautiful uniforms of the plumed knights were admirable. "Everybody was out," and the city was "all a jam." As the man remarked of the sun's eclipse, it was a "perfect success." Sometimes it looked a little silly to see some aged, portly judge or banker trudging along the street with his gaudy uniform and feathered hat, making a show of himself for the common horde. We, ourselves, are not fond of obsolete formalities and glittering show, but these knightly displays are said to be all emblematical of the higher virtues which should govern us in our lives.

Our Colleges in Trouble.—Our Iowa and Indiana brethren are having trouble with their colleges. The true inwardness of their discord we are not familiar with. It is very unfortunate for these youthful institutions, and eclecticism in general, that these quarrels take place. There have been a sufficient number of precedents from which morals might have been drawn, to have prevented such dire catastrophes. "United we stand, divided we fall," is a motto we should not, as eclectics, forget. Cincinnati had its trouble of old; New York came next; St. Louis had a *split off* in the shape of Field's diploma mill, and now comes Indianapolis and Des Moines.

It seems next thing to impossible for eclectics to start a college without this internecine trouble. Each fellow wants to run *the thing*, and this eventuates in a quarrel; one party holding the fort, and the other starting an opposition college. If there were a little more disposition to sacrifice individual feelings, waiting for Time, the great equalizer, to right all things, these troubles would be less frequent. The organization of these colleges in many instances is manifestly

imperfect. There being no salaries in these new institutions, the professors are paid in *glory*, and when one appears to be absorbing more than his share of this article, others become jealous and dissatisfied.

The New York State Eclectic Medical Society has been trying to get the two colleges in that State to shake hands across the chasm, but their efforts have not been crowned with success. Two men got into the New York Eclectic Medical College who were of the "rule or ruin" sort, and they came nearly accomplishing the latter. Eclecticism does not have a good standing in the great city, and it is plainly attributable to the disgraceful quarreling between her colleges.

Just the cause of the division in Des Moines, we cannot tell. We are personally acquainted with most of the medical gentlemen there, and from their excellent characters think they ought to have done better. It is truly deplorable that these things should occur, and we await with impatience the outcome.

New Journals.—The *Eastern Medical Journal* used to be the *Maine Medical Journal*, and has moved to Worcester, Massachusetts. This is one of the best medical periodicals among our exchanges. Its editorials show the author of them to be a man of incisive thought and medical attainments. If there is any physician who wishes to add one other to his list of journals, let him send fifty cents to the above address, and we guarantee that he will never regret the expenditure.

Prof. Howe's Photograph.—Mr. Williams, a student in our college, induced the professor to sit for a picture. He can furnish any one who may wish with a large or a small photograph, at moderate cost.

Change of Address.—Dr. Cornwall wishes to inform the JOURNAL readers of his change of city address. It is now 120 Post, at San Francisco; and 615 Fifteenth, at Oakland.

THE following prescription answers an excellent purpose in many cases of hepatic torpor, complicated with debility of the digestive organs, coming on in malarial districts during hot weather. The writer derived marked benefit after trying a number of single agents with but little good result. It is a regular old shot-gun compound, warranted to reach all over the entire intestinal tract, and probe the last one of the chylo-poetic viscera. But it does the work, and we praise the bridge which carries us safe over:—

R. Fl. ext., Nux vomica 3 ss.
Fl. ext. Iris Ver. }
Fl. ext. Chionanthus Vir. } a. a. 3 ii.
Fl. ext. Leptandra Vir. }

Neutralizing cordial ad. q. s. 3 iv.

M. Sig.: Take a teaspoonful before meals, and at bed-time.

AMONG the rising men of eclectic fame, special mention may properly be made of Prof. J. U. Lloyd, of Cincinnati. Dr. Lloyd has figured prominently among the leading chemists and pharmacists of the United States for several years past, and has been offered more than one strong inducement to turn his back upon the eclectic school. For his refusal to do this, he has been subjected to persecution from some of his hide-bound confreres, "because forsooth he was an eclectic." Dr. Lloyd is a gentleman of pleasant bearing, and a genial companion with whom to spend an hour of converse. He enters heart and soul into his specialty, "The chemistry of medicine," in which he is, without doubt, one of the leading men of the age. We shall not soon forget a pleasant hour spent in his society a few months ago.

THE August number of the *Chicago Medical Times* is one of the best it has ever published. The original communications and selections are all good. The *Times* has not made the progress in development that it might have done. It has been in existence for a number of years, and yet it

has only obtained mediocrity as a medical periodical. Dr. Davis has been very conservative regarding eclecticism; so much so that one might read his journal for months without discovering to which school he belongs. Conservatism does not pay in journalism; the more radical the better.

The *Times* is mostly composed of "original communications" and "concentrated extracts," the latter being the editor's name for "clippings." The editorial department is headed "Editorials," but why, we cannot tell. One editorial is about all an ordinary paper can afford. We think a monthly magazine is read more, and, consequently, better succeeds in getting a circulation, that shows the individuality of its editor.

The *Times* is very much our senior, and may resent our criticism. From the recent improvement in this paper, we are inclined to think more favorably of its future. We know Dr. Davis to be an able and energetic man, and wish that he would show more of *himself* in his journal.

BOOK NOTICES.

A TEXT-BOOK OF GENERAL PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY AND PATHOGENESIS. By Ernst Ziegler, Professor of Pathological Anatomy in the University of Tübingen. Translated and edited for English students by Donald MacAlister, M. A., M. B., member of the Royal College of Physicians; Fellow and Medical Lecturer of St. John's College, Cambridge. By Wm. Wood & Co., New York.

This is the July number of Wm. Wood & Co.'s Medical Library, and is creditably gotten up, as are all their publications. From what we have been able to peruse of this volume, we find it quite readable and interesting. It is common that subjects of this kind are treated in a manner that those who are not "well up" in such studies fail to grasp the ideas or become interested, but this the author has avoided. We were particularly interested by the section on parasites.

Triturations.—This form of preparing medicaments for administration originated with the homeopaths, but has come into use among a large class of eclectics, and to a limited extent among the allopaths. The latest edition of the U. S. Pharmacopœia has made them officinal. There are many medicinal agents which are modified greatly by trituration with some inert substance. It can readily be conjectured how this may be, the particles being so finely subdivided and separated. Irritant drugs like nitrate of Sanguinarina, podophyllin, and others from the extreme smallness of the dose required, like sulphate of atropia, had better be given in this way. Nitrate of Sanguinarina is soluble in water or syrup, and may be administered in this manner, but it is ever so much more elegant to administer it in the first or second triturations. The drug in this way is robbed of its unpleasantness, and is very efficacious in its action.

All eclectics are familiar with the difference in the action of podophyllin crude or triturated. The first or second acts like a charm on the alimentary canal as a gentle persuader.

There is no remedy so elegant and efficacious for nocturnal sweats as the 2 x of sulphate of atropia, which may be administered from the pocket case, and the dose approximated at five grains. Homeopathists claim that remedial agents are changed and heightened in their efficacy by the fine subdivision of their particles, and there is reason to suppose them correct.

Tartar emetic 3 x becomes an innocent and very useful remedy, and if mercurials were to be given, they had better, undoubtedly, be administered in this way.

We would respectfully refer those wishing to use or try these preparations to Boericke & Schreck, homeopathic pharmacists, 234 Sutter Street, San Francisco, whose advertisement occurs in the journal.

New Exchanges.—The *Kansas Medical Journal*, edited by J. Milton Welch, M. D., of Topeka, Kansas. This is an eclectic magazine, and is issued monthly. It is gotten up in creditable style, and certainly is deserving of patronage.

The *Maine Medical Journal* has changed its dress, address, and name. It is now the *Eastern Medical Journal*, Worcester, Massachusetts. It boasts of 5,000 subscribers.

Unjust Criticism.—Our remarks regarding the "Medical Conflict" were unjust, as the author, we subsequently learned, made no pretensions to originality, but that he culled from the eclectic literature of the day. The *Conflict* comes to us revised this month, and is designed for distribution among the laity. For this purpose it is a valuable document, and all of our physicians should avail themselves of this opportunity to advertise our faith among the people.

Sample copy, seven cents. Address the author, L. T. Beam, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

COPPER AS AN ANTIDOTE TO EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

Mr. Bura, after a statistical research, thinks that there is almost absolute impunity to copper-workers in epidemics of cholera and typhoid fever. The statistics which he has collected seem to show that the storing up of copper in small amounts, in the animal economy, constitutes an almost infallible protection.—*Druggists' Circular*.

SELECTIONS.

A TRIP TO THE PACIFIC.

AT noon of June 23d I left the "National" to my successor, and started for Denver, the graceful capital of silvery Colorado. On the way the contrast between proximate dry lands and the deluged "bottoms" of the Mississippi and the Missouri, became gradually apparent. As the western boundaries of Kansas were approached, the rippling Platte alone indicated the presence of quantities of water. The pasturage grew less and less green, and wheat-fields almost disappeared. The existence of a white powder on the grass and in evaporated fens, indicated the prevalence of "alkaline dust," the natural salt of the country. Treeless and rainless tracts force themselves upon the traveler as he journeys westward. In the immediate vicinity of beautiful and prosperous Denver, handsome growing crops are to be seen, but their beauty and promise depend upon rills turned from mountain streams, born in glaciers or thawing masses of a winter's snow and ice, now melting under the intense heat of a midsummer's sun. Artificial irrigation is a necessity in the raising of a crop in the Pacific States and Territories, and even in Colorado. Not a beet nor a cabbage can be produced without the influence of engineered waters. Without artificially conducted ditches the coarse and gravelly soil would display only thin and brown grass and the everlasting sage-brush. An odorless flower is seen here and there, as if nature had ornamentation in view, though laboring under restraint.

Colorado is filled with enterprising and ambitious men. The evidence of will and worth is everywhere apparent. Her canyons are astoundingly bold, and her mountain-tops kiss the skies. And zigzagging among the lofty peaks, ten or eleven thousand feet above the sea, railroads have been successfully carried!

At dizzy heights mines of fabulous wealth are reported. Every cowboy owns a share in a rich "lode" or "lead." He thrills his Dulcinea with speculative *el Dorados*! What gushes of hope move the breasts of the schemers! What

harrowing disappointment has to be briefly endured when an enterprise utterly fails! I say *briefly* for the victim of failure has in a day a new scheme, and a more wonderful vision of a prospective fortune! Even "Cole's Voyage of Life" fails to express in "Youth" the glories of the ardent miner's pictures and anticipations. What quantities of precious metals lie buried in the crevices of those crystal mountains! The sun is shining on the bright side of things. On the other are darkness and despair. Age comes apace, and with it doubt, dread, danger, distress, and death! Where is the fortune dreamed of and labored for? The sprites of the mountains who adorn themselves with glittering gems, and dance in the hues of misty cascades, hate the inroads of avaricious man, and combine forces to blast his projects. O fair if not frail Colorado, crazed spirits in paroxysms of disappointment will yet shake thy fastnesses with earthquakes, and topple from thy pinnacled peaks gigantic masses of rock and ice. Beware of the maniacal made mad by thy deceitful attractions! A majority of miners die poor. Better off is the rustic who tends his flocks, and allows no fantastic schemes to enter his ingenuous noddle. He is sure of a subsistence, and to enjoy the means and manners of his humble ranche. The herdsmen of Laramie plains are infinitely surer of fortunes than the diggers of ore, though the latter have built Leadville and Gunnison City.

An oasis on the overland route is Salt Lake City. The miles and miles of old lake bottoms—waterless, grassless, and treeless—strikingly like a desert—so weary the traveler that he hails with joy the blue waters of the great inland sea, and eagerly starts off for a glimpse of the peculiar people who dwell upon the borders of the briny lake. He has eaten food that was utterly unpalatable, and anticipates delicate dishes at the hotels of the "Saints." Will he find relishes there? Indeed he will. Raspberries and cream that would delight the palate of a celestial, whether he be a Chineese or not. By dint of industry the Mormons have converted a strip of desert into a garden spot. Of the domestic relations of this people I have nothing to say, except that they are offensive to Christian nations. The average believer in polygamous doctrines is apparently sincere in his notions. It is by fruitfulness that the church is to grow, and gain strength to overthrow all kinds of opposition. The meek and patient maiden seems willing to cast her matri-

monial lot with two or three others of her sex, provided her husband be a good church man, and live up to his professions. If a bricklayer have three wives, one takes her turn in staying at home, and the two others hire out at any respectable service—the income, except a tenth for the church, going into a common family fund; and the mother attending to the household is presumed to give as large pieces of bread and butter to the children of co-wives as to her own. And as far as outward appearances are concerned, the “saints” are frugal, industrious, honest, and thrifty. There can be no question about the sincerity of their belief. They are intensely religious, and confident of happiness in the world to come. A few polywives were pointed out. They were dressed plainly, and appeared submissive. They were never handsome, and seemingly free from allurements. They would seldom lead an æsthetic Gentile into temptation. Elegant buildings for church purposes are going up in the city, and the income from tithes is considerable. The entire scheme of the saintly host is methodical, and certainly moves with little friction. Nearly all the Territory of Utah is dominated by the church, and the privilege of becoming a State is pressed. But the latter condition will not be admitted with polygamy as a feature. A Congressman who votes the privileges of a commonwealth to a polygamous people, might do well to consider whether his constituency would sustain his action or not. Yet, let no man flatter himself that Mormon doctrines would lose in influence if restricted as now to territorial powers. The church snaps its fingers at the Governor, and manages its own courts. In outward action it is meek and submissive, yet in secret—in spirit—it is daring and aggressive. Let no one under-rate the strength and danger of this peculiar institution. Recruits from foreign countries are yearly arriving.

Nevada is agriculturally a feeble commonwealth. She was elevated to Statehood on a population temporarily attracted to her borders by startling reports of fabulous fortunes in her mines. After noted “lodes” of silver were exhausted the seeker of mineral wealth departed for more promising fields, leaving little except the door-posts of a squalid cabin. The land is very mountainous, with no fertile valleys, though irrigation will produce a crop of wheat or vegetables in restricted ranges. The hill-sides are thinly covered with nutritious grass, which will feed and even

fatten sheep and cattle. Quite extensive flocks and herds were to be seen, and a "bunch" of horses was not an unusual sight. A dollar a meal for food at Nevada eating-houses makes a visitor desire to get out of the region before he is entirely bankrupt and starved.

There is no alluvial soil in the State, but a coarse gravel gives root-hold to the repulsive sage-brush. The rivers, fed by melting snows on the mountain summits, run into basins, and are lost through evaporation. The banks of such streams are irrigated only to a restricted extent. Such a country can never support a dense population.

California is a fairer land to view. She has fertile valleys, and hill-sides capable of yielding abundant crops. The inhabitants of this resplendent State could support themselves by agriculture, and sell wheat and wine enough to indulge in luxuries. However, the zealous immigrant is not to think he can pluck without work even in the Golden State. Here, too, is irrigation necessary. The rains fall in winter and spring, and give crops a good start, yet a later drought will pinch them before maturity, unless a mountain rill be turned into parched furrows. With plenty of water the largest harvests may be secured; but without the reviving currents the sun will dissipate vegetable juices and wither the stalks.

As a mining State California has seen her best days. Every year the returns show a falling off in the gathering of precious metals. Well, what of it? In my opinion the magnificent commonwealth is the better for the failing resource. California has greater riches in soil-productions and in commerce than in mines. Her climate is seductively fine, and her coast is exceedingly attractive.

San Francisco is a marvelous city. Her harbor is in a bay that has a good depth of water, and ships from all parts of the world rest at her wharves. A babel of tongues is in her streets, and all nations seem to have a representation there. Of foreigners the almond-eyed Chinese is the most conspicuous. He is numerous, patient, persevering, frugal, and industrious; and, like English sparrows with us, he has come to stay. He is the Pacific "hewer of wood and drawer of water," therefore is indispensable. He is cursed and cuffed, yet does not seem to suffer from the treatment. He is clever and ingenious, hence he can be utilized to make docks, railroads, and other public works, or be induced to wash, cook, and do all kinds of kitchen work. He knows how to irrigate,

and how to do almost everything. "John" is a necessity, though an evil. It should not be a question how to get rid of him but how to get along without him. John raises the best berries and vegetables brought to the markets. The bugs never trouble his vines. He lives on nothing, and lays up money; therefore nobody can compete with him, so far as mere existence is concerned. Let the jealous hoodlums drink, swear, and berate the saddle-colored pagan, but they can never rival him as patient laborers. The door to entrance and progress is now closed against Oriental pig-tails, yet how quickly might all this be changed. Let it be declared that the Chinese would certainly vote for one of the great political parties, and he would soon be granted the rights of citizenship, and be made eligible to suffrage. John Chinaman will be a Congressman before the year 2000!

San Francisco has more doctors in proportion to its inhabitants than any other city in the United States. Oakland, across the bay, has an Eclectic Medical College, and a respectable faculty. Its patronage is not great, yet as large as could be reasonably expected, considering the somewhat restricted region from which to draw recruits. I had the pleasure of meeting twenty or more of "our brethren in California," and I am not flattering them when I say that I never met a higher grade of professional gentlemen. They have the appearance of being "well off," or thrifty.

Oregon is not the delightful State it is advertised to be. Its largest city is Portland, located on the navigable waters of the Willamette, a tributary of Columbia River. It is in a valley boastful of its fertility and agricultural wealth, yet in midsummer hay sells for twenty-five dollars a ton, and other farm products are correspondingly high. It is said that a country may be judged by its butter. If that be true, Oregon will continue to be hated by tourists. The best hotels in Portland are an abomination. The markets of the city are miserable, and eatables command exorbitant prices. Eggs, for instance, sell in July for 60 cents a dozen. Oregon is largely a desert. At least it has extensive tracts of sandy and gravelly soil that will not even produce crops when assisted by irrigation. A few valleys, like Walla Walla, will grow fine wheat and other small grains, yet such lands are mostly taken up. Cattle may be grazed on wide ranges, though the stock can do better elsewhere. What is called "the lake region," is a snare and a delusion. Emigrants should steer clear of its sage-brush and infertility.

Washington Territory, fronting on Puget Sound and the inlets of those waters, is densely studded with fir timber, the trees being the tallest of the tall; and the wooded tracts are held at good prices. There is plenty of cedar, and some yellow pine, but the best timber is in spruce and fir.

On the Sound the largest saw-mills in the world are in active operation. At Tacoma and Seattle are good coal mines; and at the wharves of these juvenile cities are the largest steamers—coalers—loading for the San Francisco markets. This reminds me that the discovery of a coal mine on the Pacific declivity of the Sierra Nevada Range of mountains would be worth more to the commercial capital of the Pacific Coast than the existence of a mountain of gold! Coal sells in San Francisco for ten and twelve dollars a ton, and the demand is immense. The Northern Pacific Railroad is aiming to tap the coal fields of Washington Territory.

Columbia River is one of the wonders of the Pacific Slope. Its voluminous waters come from snows melting on the tops and sides of the Rocky Mountains. Millions of great salmon pass its bar and ascend its tributaries to spawn. On the way up and back these fish eat nothing, yet are liable to have their gills ensnared in nets ingeniously displayed by fishermen. At Astoria thousands of tons of canned salmon are yearly shipped to the markets of the world. When the fish return from their spawning grounds they are thin and flabby, and no attempt is made to catch them. The "fry" are hatched in the clear cold waters of the upper streams, and the growing fish stay in fresh water until half grown. They then descend to the sea, where they feed and swim, except during June and July, the spawning season.

There is a probability that even intelligent people do not realize the magnitude of Columbia River. More water is discharged by it than flows through the Mississippi or the St. Lawrence. Melting snows keep it at about the same stage all the year round. It is not fed by rains nor springs, but from snow-falls that occur on the Pacific Slope, or western "divide." The Snake, a tributary, is navigable as far up as into Idaho; and Clarke's Fork, another tributary, is wide and deep enough for steamboating. Ships of the largest size ascend the Columbia to the vicinity of Portland. The "Dalles," above that point, with the deep canyon, constitute the grandest spectacle in the world; and the Cascades re-

mind one of the whirlpool below Niagara. The great river is compressed into a chasm only seventy feet wide at the top; and the noise of the rushing waters beneath calls to mind the nature of the awful abyss. Up this gorge salmon find their way, for they spawn hundreds of miles above.

Far to the north, in Idaho, is a large lake, Pend d'Oreille, which, with others that find an outlet in the Columbia, calls to mind a system of lacustrine reservoirs that feed the St. Lawrence. Some rain contributes to the size of the northern tributaries of the Columbia, and great forests abound on the borders of such streams. The Northern Pacific Railway reaches its most northern point at Pend d'Oreille. Recently constructed ice-houses along the borders of the lake indicate that some enterprising company has determined to utilize the winter's crop of crystallized water. The product will naturally find its way, down grade, to Portland, and to consumers near the coast—possibly to shippers for the San Francisco trade. Timber from these regions will be transported eastward, to the treeless regions of Dakota. The railroad will find enough to do, though much of the country through which it passes is comparatively unproductive. Montana needs lumber, and can ship cattle. The mines of the Territory are still worked, some of them to a profit. Helena is a thriving city, and Deer Lodge is helped by a railroad that connects it with Salt Lake City and Denver. Buttes City is a thriving mining point on the line of the Utah railway.

The Northern Pacific Railroad crosses the backbone of the Rockies between Missoula and Helena. A tunnel 6,000 feet above the level of the sea helps the grade. Between the points mentioned is a gap in the rails of 135 miles, that is filled by stage-coaching. I crossed the ridge on foot, and saw plenty of old snow-banks. As I stood on the summit, looking at waters flowing westward to the Pacific Ocean, and eastward to the Gulf of Mexico, I enjoyed a rare opportunity to contemplate the immensity of our public domain. In almost every direction could be seen mountain ranges that are perpetually capped with snow and ice. Waters flowing from these are the sources of the great river systems of the West. Small streams flow into sinks or basins, like the Humboldt, and are lost. Salt Lake is fed by several rivers of considerable size, yet an active evaporation renders the water more briny than that of the sea, and keeps it at

about the same level all the year round. The dessicated beds or basins of other lakes are crossed by the Union and Central Pacific railways. Old shore lines, in terraces, on the mountain-sides, are too plainly marked to be mistaken. The bottoms consist chiefly of yellow clay, that is furrowed here and there by occasional rains. In places layers of salt indicate that these old lakes at one time had impassable barriers—no outlets. The Snake River, which heads in Utah, may have been the route the waters took when they escaped. When those ancient lakes were full they must have been thousands of feet deep, for the highest shore lines are far up on the mountain-sides. Terraces indicate that the surface of the lake stood a long time at about one level, then rapidly receded from fifty to a hundred feet, to again have a period of rest at a given level.

Petrified fishes, bird-like reptiles, and mammals, in the marl and clayey rocks of the furrowed basins show that these lacustrine operations were not geologically ancient, but *pliocene*. I picked up fossil vertebrates on the Green River, and saw them in similar rocks in the "bad lands," near the little Missouri. There the railroad builders encountered quantities of fossil stumps, and animal remains of the vertebrate type. The fossiliferous rock is above a vein of lignite, which is mined to supply fuel to the locomotives. I saw the same lignite sold as coal in the markets of Bismarck and Fargo. The shape and grain and knots of the wood are plainly seen in the lignite. The material has the general appearance of coke or charcoal. It is not "coked" from the *conifers* of the *carboniferous age*, but its structure plainly declares that it came from higher grades of trees than those from which anthracite and bituminous coals were carbonized.—*Eclectic Medical Journal*.

DIPHTHERIA AND ITS TREATMENT.*

BY THE LATE JOHN PARKER, M. D.

In looking over the contributions to many of the medical journals of the day, in relation to the nature and treatment

*This valuable essay was written by the late John Parker, M. D., of Biddeford, Me., with the intention of presenting it to the Maine Eclectic Medical Society, at its last annual meeting, held May 23d, but as he was obliged to leave early in the day, it was not read. Since his death, which occurred June 10th, it has been presented to us for publication, which we gladly accepted.

of diphtheria, I have been really surprised to find how great a diversity of opinion exists in regard to the true pathology of the disease, and in regard to the means that have been employed to overcome the same. And seeing how unsatisfactory most of the treatment has been, I have thought it possibly might be interesting to you to hear from me on the subject.

In all that I have ever read or heard of in relation to this disease, nothing, as yet, has ever fully expressed my views of its nature; nor given, as I believe, the most rational treatment of it.

My ideas, however, of the cause, nature, and treatment of the disease, may be open to criticism as well as the ideas of others; but my success in its treatment, and the desire to benefit others, ought to be an apology for offering these remarks.

It has generally been conceded, especially in the region where I have practiced, that I have had a very large and satisfactory experience in the treatment of diphtheria. Having treated the disease in all its forms and manifestations, among all classes and ages of persons during a period of more than twenty years, amounting in all to over 500 cases, with a loss of less than one per cent., I have thought it might be well to give you the benefit of this experience.

In the years of 1863 and '64, diphtheria in this section of the country became fearfully prevalent, and was attended with a mortality truly appalling; it being nearly, if not quite, seventy-five per cent. of all that came down with the disease. In many instances whole families were swept away by this fearful scourge. It seldom entered a family without taking from it from one to five of its members. This state of things was truly alarming; and I felt specially called upon to give the matter my most careful consideration, to see what could be done to meet such an emergency. In doing so I came to such conclusion as, I think, time has proven to have been well founded.

I believe diphtheria to be a constitutional disease, resulting, probably, from a poisoned condition of the blood; as all local manifestations are always preceded by such constitutional symptoms as most clearly prove this to be the case.

In my early investigation of this disease (aided somewhat by Dr. E. N. Chapman's article on diphtheria, as published in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, of 1863) I

was led to believe that the whole train of both constitutional and local manifestations was due to a faulty condition of the liver; which, failing to eliminate from the blood the morbid material that, becoming a poison, depressed the vital force by its action on the brain and nervous system, was, primarily, the cause of all the constitutional and local disturbance that followed in its development. The liver failing to destroy the fibrine of the blood with its accustomed rapidity, the blood, as a matter of course, soon becomes abnormally loaded with it; which, undoubtedly, is the remote, if not the immediate, cause of all the local manifestation that may present in this disease.

But, allowing the foregoing etiology of the disease to be mainly correct, it may be more particularly interesting to you, brethren, to learn what course I think is best to pursue in its treatment.

Whatever the true pathology of the disease may be, there certainly is a great difference of opinion, I am aware, in regard to the proper therapeutics to be employed in its treatment, based, however, chiefly upon the different views entertained of its cause. But, setting all differences aside, I hold that the treatment should be such as will stay the progress of the disease at once, and render the patient convalescent in less than twelve hours from the first medication; and to limit the disease to not more than six days' duration, and that with no liability of any sequellæ. In order to do it, the treatment must be radical from the beginning.

The liver must be aroused to a healthy action; the secretions changed and established; and the exudation of the false membrane must be arrested, and its septic nature destroyed. But, to do this, do not wait to "Beat about the bush with a straw," as in expectancy, but go directly to the work with such remedies as will fulfill the first and every indication without delay. To do this you need not give the patient from ten to twenty grains of calomel every hour till the prima via contain half an ounce of the drug, as one writer recently advised; nor need you give the drug in any quantity, whatever. But first of all, have the patient put in bed, and give the following emetic, viz.:—

R	pulv. Lobelia inf.	6 parts.
	" Ipecac	4 "
	" Bloodroot	3 "
	" Skunk Cabbage	3 "
	" Capsicum	1 " M.

From ʒj to ʒj, according to age, may be given every fifteen minutes, in third of a cup of warm water, generally, till some five or six doses are given, or till thorough emesis ensues. The patient will generally perspire quite freely while under the influence of the emetic; this condition should be promoted and continued for several hours, at least, by sufficient clothing and the free use of sudorifics. Then in six or eight hours give a thorough cathartic, viz.:

R	pulv. Senna,	2 parts.
	" Jalap,	1 "
	" Cloves,	q. s. M.

From ʒj to ʒj, according to age, will be required; given in a little cold, sweetened water.

As soon as the cathartic has thoroughly operated, take of Monsel's Sol. ferri persulph., one part.

Distilled water, two parts (more or less). M.

Use this topically with a camel-hair brush, by just painting lightly with it over the false membrane wherever it may appear in sight. This should be repeated every ten or twelve hours, according to the nature of the case; and should be followed immediately with a gargle of clear milk.

Gargles, by such as can use them, should be employed every one or two hours, throughout the disease. For this purpose a carbolized solution of potassa chlorate, alternated with a decoction of Red Ozier bark, is, I think, among the best.

In some instances it may become necessary to use a spray to the local trouble in the throat; for this perhaps there is nothing better than Sol. Bismuth and Hydrastia.

Small bits of ice held in the mouth to dissolve is sometimes of very great importance.

In very severe cases, with much tumefaction of the glands of the neck, I would recommend a rye-meal poultice, well sprinkled over with mustard, to be applied over the throat and tonsillar region, until the surface is nearly blistered. I have sometimes found such irritated surfaces to become covered with the false membrane.

For constitutional treatment to antidote the diphtheritic poison, alcohol, in some of its forms, either with or without some preparation of bark, as the case may demand, should be administered early and continued till convalescence is well established. It may be given, generally, as in the following formula:—

R Cinchon. Sulph. ʒj
 Acid. Sulph. Arom. q. s.
 Spts. vini galic. or
 Spts. frumenti ʒijss.
 Glycerini opt.
 Syr. simplex
 Aqua menth. pip. ā ā ʒss. M.

Dose, from one to four teaspoonfuls every one, two or four hours, according to the age and condition of the patient.

Should laryngeal complications supervene, give of the following:—

R Syr. Sanguinaria, ʒss.
 " Prunus v., ʒj.
 " Tolut., ʒijss.
 " Yerba Santa, ʒij. M.

In teaspoonful doses, or less, according to age, every one or two hours, alternated with the stimulant specified above.

Should the urgent symptoms not subside within twenty-four hours, the temperature remaining high, and the pulse up to or above 100, repeat the emetic; and also the cathartic.

In all cases of diphtheria, whether of a mild type or a more severe one, the treatment most positively indicated is the emetic, the stimulant—the topical application of the sulphur and iron—the continued diaphoresis, and gargles, but most of all the emetic. Seldom, indeed, have I ever seen a case grow any worse after the proper administration of the emetic, and their rapid recovery is often truly surprising.

In giving the treatment of this disease, I have not endeavored to enter into all the minutiae of the treatment of individual cases, but to give a general treatment for all cases, to be supplemented by such other treatment as may be specially indicated in the course of the disease. I have, however, made the emetic the *sine qua non* in the treatment, for several important reasons, among which may be mentioned its action on the liver and its ducts; its reflex

action upon the brain and nervous system; and, particularly, its effect as a prophylactic against the occurrence of any unpleasant sequellæ. But do not think that any emetic will do as well as the one specified above; if so you will be very liable to frequent disappointments.

In all my observation of diphtheria, I have never seen any of those lingering sequellæ, such as paralysis, rheumatism, etc., follow this course of treatment. In fact, none of those conditions have ever come up in all my experience.

TALMAGE ON DOCTORS.

ENCOURAGE all physicians. You thank him when he brings you up out of an awful crisis of disease; but do you thank him for treating the incipient stages of disease so skillfully that you do not sink as far down as an awful crisis? There is much cheap and heartless wit about the physician, but get sick and how quickly you send for him. Some say doctors are of more harm than good, and there is a book written entitled "Every man his own Doctor." That author ought to write one more book, and entitle it, "Every Man his Own Undertaker." Do you think physicians are hard-hearted because they see so much pain? Ah, no! The most eminent surgeon of the last generation in New York came into the clinical department of the New York Medical College when there was a severe operation to be performed upon a little child. The great surgeon said to the students gathered around: "Gentlemen, there are surgeons here who can do this just as well as I can. You will excuse me, therefore, if I retire. I cannot endure the sight of suffering as well as I once could." There are so many trials, so many interruptions, so many exhaustions in a physician's life, that I rejoice he gets so many encouragements. Before him open all circles of society. He is welcomed in cot and mansion. Children shout when they see his gig coming, and old men, recognizing his step, look up and say, "Doctor, is that you?" He stands between our families and the grave, fighting back the disorders that troop up from their encampments by the cold river. No one ever hears such hearty thanks as the doctor. Under God he makes the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk. The path of such is strewn with the benedictions of those

whom they have befriended. Perhaps there was in our house an evil hour of foreboding. We thought that all hope was gone. The doctor came four times that day. The children put aside their toys. We walked on tiptoe, and whispered, and at every sound said "hush!" How loud the clock ticked; and, with all our care, the banister creaked. The doctor stayed all night, and concentrated all his skill. At last the restlessness of the sufferer subsided into a sweet, calm slumber, and the doctor looked around to us and whispered, "The crisis is past." When propped up with pillows, the sick one sat in the easy chair, and through the lattice the soft south wind tried hard to blow a rose-leaf into the faded cheek; and we were all glad, and each of the children brought a violet or a clover-top from the lawn to the lap of the convalescent, and little Bertha stood on a high chair with the brush, smoothing her mother's hair, and it was decided that the restored one might soon ride out for a mile or two, our house was bright again. And, as we helped our medical adviser into the gig, we saw not that the step was broken, or his horse sprung in the knees. For the first time in our life we realized what doctors are worth. In some of our minds, among the tenderest of all memories is that of the old family physician.—*The Clinical Brief and Sanitary News.*

OXYDENDRON IN ANASARCA.

DR. CLENDENIN (*Therapeutic Gazette*, April, 1883) calls attention to a drug which the eclectics have had good success with in the treatment of dropsy. The drug in question is sourwood (oxydendron), which grows abundantly throughout the Southern States. The leaves and bark of the sourwood contain the medical properties, being diuretic and laxative. The best way to use it is to make a semi-solid extract, which should be worked into two-grain pills, to be given in doses of two or three pills, three times daily, gradually increasing the dose each day until twelve or fifteen pills are given during the day, then gradually decreased day by day until the original dose is reached. By this mode of treatment he claims that dropsical effusions of the worst form may be often removed.—*Medical Record.*